

PATENT Attorney Docket No.: 16869N-103900US

Client Ref. No.: NT1421US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Tetsuya SHIROGANE

Application No.: 10/765,289

Filed: January 26, 2004

For: STORAGE APPARATUS AND

ACCESS MANAGEMENT METHOD THEREFOR

Customer No.: 20350

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

Confirmation No.: 2560

Examiner: Unassigned

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2131

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT